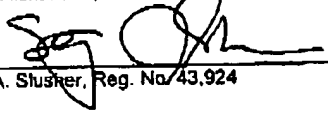


Filed in Duplicate

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on July 25, 2003.


Stephen A. Slusher, Reg. No. 43,924

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 09/308,150
Applicant : Waltherus J.W. van Venrooij, et al.
Filed : September 30, 1999
Title : PEPTIDE DERIVED FROM AN ANTIGEN RECOGNIZED BY AUTOANTIBODIES
FROM PATIENTS WITH RHEUMATOID ARTHRITIS; ANTIBODY DIRECTED
AGAINST SAID PEPTIDE, A COMBINATORIAL ANTIGEN, AND A METHOD OF
DETECTING AUTOIMMUNE ANTIBODIES

TC/A.U. : 1644
Examiner : A. DeCloux

Mail Stop: AF
Commissioner for Patents
United States Patent and Trademark Office
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME


Dear Sir,

Pursuant to Public Law 97-247, Section 8, and 37 C.F.R. § 1.136, Applicant(s) herewith petition(s) that the period for response to the Office Action mailed on March 25, 2003, be extended for one month(s), to and including July 25, 2003. The appropriate small entity fee for this extension accompanies this Petition. Small entity status is declared under 37 CFR § 1.27.

For the Commissioner's convenience this Petition is submitted in duplicate. If any additional fee is required, please charge our Deposit Account No. 13-4213.

Respectfully submitted,

By:


Stephen A. Slusher, Reg. No. 43,924
Direct Line: (505) 998-6130

Attorneys for Applicant(s)
PEACOCK, MYERS & ADAMS, P.C.
P. O. Box 26927
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87125-6927

Telephone: (505) 998-1500
Facsimile: (505) 243-2542
Customer No. 005179

[G:\ANNETTE\L&S-VanVenrooij-Ext.PTO.doc] 30394-1027